GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

EFS&T Department - Diversion of 4.96 ha of forest land falling in Compartment No.200 of Bodabanda RF, Chittoor West Range, Chittoor West Division & Chittoor District in favour of M/s. Sri Vasista Mining, Hyderabad (Managing Partner - Sri B.S.Nithin Kumar Reddy) for grant of quarry lease for Black Granite – Final (stage-II) approval accorded.

ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (Section-II) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Ms.No.74 Dated:05.12.2023

Read the following:-

1)From the PCCF&HoFF, A.P., Lr.Ref.No.EFS02-15029/23/2020-FCA SEC-PCCF/FCA-2 (I), dated:02.03.2021.
2)State Govt.Memo.No.1215/Sec.II/2021/1453124, EFS&T(Sec.II) Dept., dated:13.09.2021.
3)From the PCCF & HoFF, A.P., Lr.Ref.NO.EFS02-15029/23/2020-FCA SEC-PCCF/FCA-1, dated:23.10.2021.
4)State Govt.Lr.No.1215/Sec.II/2021/1453124, EFS&T(Sec.II) Dept., dated:03.11.2021.
5)From the GoI, MoEF&CC, IRO, Vijayawada, Lr.F.No.4-APB141/2021-VIJ/112, dated:23.12.2021.
6)From the PCCF & HoFF, A.P., Lr.Ref.No.EFS02-15029/23/2020-FCA SEC-PCCF/FCA-1, dated:06.03.2022.
7)State Govt.Lr.No.1215/Sec.II/2021/1453124, EFS&T(Sec.II) Dept., dated:15.03.2022.
8)From GoI, MoEF&CC, IRO, Vijayawada, Lr.No.4-APB141/2021-VIJ/645, dated:16.11.2022.
9)From the PCCF & HoFF, A.P., Lr.Ref.No.EFS02-15029/23/2020-FCA SEC-PCCF/FCA-1, dated:25.09.2023.
10)State Govt.Lr.No.1215/Sec.II/2021/1453124, EFS&T(Sec.II) Dept., dated:12.10.2023.
11)From the GoI, MoEF&CC, Regional Office, Sub-Office at Vijayawada, Lr.F.No.4-APB141/2021-VIJ/1376, dated:18.11.2023.

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ORDER:

In the letter 1st and 3rd read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh, has submitted a proposal under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for diversion of 4.96 ha of forest land falling in Compartment No.200 of Bodabanda RF, Chittoor West Range, Chittoor West Division & Chittoor District in favour of M/s. Sri Vasista Mining, Hyderabad (Managing Partner- Sri B.S.Nithin Kumar Reddy) for grant of quarry lease for Black Granite and requested to forward the proposal to the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, IRO, Vijayawada for according necessary approval.

2. In the letter 4th read above, the proposal of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, was sent to Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Integrated Regional Office, Vijayawada for its approval under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

3. In the letter 8th read above, the Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Integrated Regional Office, Vijayawada have accorded in-principle (Stage-I) approval under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for the proposal, subject to compliance of certain conditions stipulated therein.

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4. In the letter 9th read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh has furnished compliance report on the Stage-I conditions stipulated by the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Integrated Regional Office, Vijayawada and requested to consider the same and forward to Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Integrated Regional Office, Vijayawada for issue of Stage-II approval for the proposal. Accordingly, the State Government have forwarded compliance report on stage-I conditions to the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Regional Office, Sub-office at Vijayawada for its consideration and accord Final (Stage-II) approval for the proposal vide letter in the 10th cited.

5. In the letter 11th read above, the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Regional Office, Sub-Office at Vijayawada, have accorded Final (Stage-II) approval under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for diversion of 4.96 ha of forest land falling in Compartment No.200 of Bodabanda RF, Chittoor West Range, Chittoor West Division & Chittoor District in favour of M/s. Sri Vasista Mining, Hyderabad (Managing Partner- Sri B.S.Nithin Kumar Reddy) for grant of quarry lease for Black Granite, subject to certain conditions stipulated therein.

6. After careful examination of the proposal, the Government hereby accord permission to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh, for diversion of 4.96 ha of forest land falling in Compartment No.200 of Bodabanda RF, Chittoor West Range, Chittoor West Division & Chittoor District in favour of M/s. Sri Vasista Mining, Hyderabad (Managing Partner- Sri B.S.Nithin Kumar Reddy) for grant of quarry lease for Black Granite, subject to the following conditions:-

i. Legal status of the diverted forest shall remain unchanged;

ii. Pillars erected for demarcation shall be maintained by the Use Agency;

iii. The State Forest Department shall carryout SMC works like check dams, MOPTS, CCTs and gap planting as proposed in the identified non-forest land over an extent of **4.73 ha** in Sy.No.19-2C2 of Ramagiri Village, Rarnagiri Mandal, Ananthapuram Range, Ananthapuram District from the amount already been realized from the User Agency;

iv. The State Forest Department shall raise and maintain plantation as proposed over an extent of **4.96 ha** in the degraded forest land in Compartment No. 424 of Ramagiri East RF & Beat from the amount already been realized from the User Agency;

v. The approved CA land and compensatory afforestation scheme shall not be changed without prior approval of the Central Government. Display board at CA land site may be erected for easy identification;

vi. Additional amount of the Net Present Value (NPV) of the diverted forest land if any, becoming due after revision of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in future, shall be charged by the State Government from the User Agency;

vii. Proposed SMC works like a deep trench all along mining boundary without disturbing surrounding vegetation shall be carried out by the User Agency before commencement of mining operation and as proposed a check dam in the Compt.No.200 of the Bodabadla RF shall be constructed by the Forest department from the amount already been realized from the User Agency;

viii. Dumping shall be done in the designated place and the user agency shall ensure stabilization of the overburden dumps by appropriate grading/ benching so as to ensure that angles of repose at any given place is less than 28°;

ix. As the User Agency submitted approved mining plan for 5 years, the User Agency shall submit revised approved mining plan to Sub-Office, Vijayawada & the Regional Office, Chennai (issued by the competent authority for a specified period) before commencement of mining activity from sixth year onwards;

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x. The State Forest Department shall ensure in house monitoring of the project site every year and such monitoring report shall be submitted to Sub-Office, Vijayawada & the Regional Office, Chennai through State Government;

xi. The User Agency shall carryout fencing around the entire mine area including safety zone and road area under the supervision of the State Forest Department at the project cost;

xii. Safety zone shall be maintained as a green belt and to ensure dense canopy cover in the area, regeneration activity shall be taken up by the State Forest Department from the amount already been realized from the User Agency:

xiii. The State Forest Department shall carry out afforestation and its maintenance on degraded forest land over an extent of 1.15 ha (one and half times the safety zone area) in degraded forest area in Compt.No.241, Vovilathola RF, Santhapeta Beat, Chittoor West Range in lieu of safety zone area of 0.75 ha from the amount already been realized from the User Agency;

xiv. The State Forest Department shall undertake gap planting and soil and moisture conservation activities to restock and rejuvenate the degraded open forest (having crown density less than 0.4), if any, located in the area within 100 meters from the outer perimeter of the mining lease using native species from the amount already been realized from the User Agency;

xv. The User Agency shall undertake mining and reclamation as per the approved mining plan, and submit an annual compliance report to the Sub-Office, Vijayawada and Regional Office, Chennai;

xvi. The diversion of the said forest land under this approval shall be for a period co-terminus with the period of the mining lease proposed to be granted under the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2015, or Rules framed there under. The User Agency shall submit a copy of the mining lease once obtained, to the Sub-Office, Vijayawada and Regional Office, Chennai;

xvii. The User Agency shall obtain Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986;

xviii. Consent of the State Pollution Control Board shall be obtained under the Air and Water Act before commencement of mining operations and it shall be renewed regularly;

xix. No labour camps shall be established on the forest land. The User Agency shall provide firewood, preferably alternate fuel to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the adjacent forest areas;

xx. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of the Central Government;

xxi. The User Agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance to all the Acts, Rules, Regulations, Court Orders and Guidelines of the Ministry, for the time being in force, as applicable to such project;

xxii. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal and total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed 4.96 ha (including safety zone area). The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect;

xxiii. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred or sublet to any other agency or Department or person without prior approval of the Central Government;

xxiv. Any other condition that the DDG (Central), Regional Office, Chennai may impose from time to time in the interest of afforestation, conservation and management of flora and fauna in the area shall be complied by the User Agency;

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xxv. In the event of failure to comply with any of the above conditions the User Agency is liable for penal action as per the rules / guidelines issued under FCA, 1980;

7. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh, shall take further necessary action in the matter accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

NEERABH KUMAR PRASAD
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force,
Andhra Pradesh, Mangalagiri, Guntur District.

Copy to:

The IGF, RO (HQ) Division, MoEF&CC, Indira Paryavaran Bhavan,
Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi – 110 003.
The AIGF (Central), GoI, MoEF & CC, Sub-Office of the Regional Office,
Chennai, Green House Complex, Gopal Reddy Road, Vijayawada – 520010.

M/s.Sri Vasista Mining, Managing Partner – Sri B.S.Nithin Kumar Reddy,
Sri Vasista Apurva, #8-2-350/3/2, 501, Road No.3, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad.
SF/SC (Computer No.1453124)

// FORWARDED :: BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER